

THE VOTER CHOICE OPEN PRIMARY GIVES *YOU* THE POWER - NOT THE PARTY BOSSES AND POLITICIANS

Proposition 62. The Voter Choice Open Primary Initiative, allows every voter -- *including independent voters* -- to vote for the best candidate for office, regardless of party, in primary elections.

The Voter Choice Open Primary is similar to the method Californians have used for the past century to elect mayors, city council members, county supervisors and district attorneys.

Proposition 62 puts power -- and choice -- back in *your* hands and takes it away from the party bosses and political insiders who've stacked the system in their favor -- at our expense.

THE VOTER CHOICE OPEN PRIMARY ACT IS BADLY NEEDED REFORM

It will:

- open up California's elections process
- expand voter choices
- increase voter participation
- create more competition in elections

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- make more accountable our state's elected officials, so they are responsive to *all* voters – not just the special interests and those at the ideological extremes

CALIFORNIA VOTERS SUPPORT AN OPEN PRIMARY

California voters passed an Open Primary system in 1996 with almost 60% of the vote over the opposition of the party bosses. The 1998 and 2000 elections were run under the Open Primary system and voter participation increased. But the party bosses used the courts to block the Open Primary they couldn't defeat at the ballot box. Proposition 62 is written in a manner that addresses the concerns of the courts and restores the will of the people of California to have an Open Primary system.

RESTORE COMPETITION - OPEN UP THE CURRENT PRIMARY SYSTEM THAT'S STACKED AGAINST THE VOTERS

Politicians of both major parties cut a backroom deal to protect incumbents. They created mainly "safe" legislative districts where party registration heavily favors one party or the other. The winner of the majority party's primary election is virtually guaranteed victory in the almost meaningless general election. Meanwhile, voters in other political parties have no real voice in the selection of their representatives in Sacramento and Washington.

The politicians and party bosses like the current system because they can control it.

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That's why we're stuck with an unpopular State Legislature that's out of touch with the will of California voters.

HOW WOULD IT WORK?

In primary elections, every voter would receive a ballot listing the name of all candidates and in most cases their party registration. Voters, including independents, can pick the candidate of their choice for each office, regardless of the candidate's party registration.

The top two vote-getters, regardless of party, would face each other in the November general election. (Presidential nominating and party central committee elections would be unaffected by the Voter Choice Open Primary.)

THE OPEN PRIMARY IS OPPOSED BY THE PARTY BOSSES

The party bosses are running a cynical scare campaign to hang on to their power by confusing voters about the Voter Choice Open Primary. Don't let them get away with it.

When it comes to elections, you – *the voter* – should be the boss.

Steve Westly
California State Controller

Richard J. Riordan
California Secretary for Education

Becky Morgan
Former State Senator

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